


Literally Speaking



NEWPORT BEACH
PUBLIC LIBRARY

NBPL Literacy Services 1000 Avocado, Newport Beach, CA 92660 949-717-3874 Autumn 2009

A Publication of Newport Beach Public Library Literacy Services



New Writing Class

Beginning in mid-October, Toby Larson will be teaching Advanced Writing. Please watch your mailbox or email inbox for more details.

Changes

www.newsforyouonline.com

Many tutors and learners enjoy reading the front pages of News For You online and doing the accompanying activities. New Readers Press is moving toward making this available only to subscribers with the current weekly password. Literacy Services is a subscriber, and the issues we receive weekly will contain the newest password. If you are interested in receiving a weekly email with the password, please let us know by phone or by email. We receive a limited number of issues in the office, and continue to request that you bring back any current issues that you are finished with so that others may enjoy them.

Rochelle Hoffman Memorial Award Winner

A highlight of ILD each year is the awarding of the Rochelle Hoffman Memorial Award. Rochelle's daughters, Risa and Renee, opened up the presentation by sharing briefly about their mother and her love of teaching, then invited Shari Elias, tutor to Parvin Tabrizi, this year's winner, to speak and to introduce Parvin. Shari, in addition to tutoring Parvin, is the instructor for the Tuesday discussion group, and movingly told of the personal connections made with others in the program and what it has meant to her. She told of Parvin's thirst for learning, and her tenacity in overcoming obstacles to her progress. Parvin affirmed her commitment to learn English, her determination to never give up, and her gratitude to the literacy program. Jeremy Riley, representative for Congressman John Campbell, warmly congratulated Parvin, presenting her a congressional certificate.



Parvin & Shari

International Literacy Day Celebrated at Newport Beach Public Library

More than 140 people from the literacy program, library staff, and the Newport Beach community attended the International Literacy Day (ILD) celebration on September 10th. As in previous years, attendees were treated to wonderful, ethnic foods prepared by literacy program learners. To complete the buffet, the Corona del Mar Starbucks provided coffee, and Bristol Farms generously donated a gorgeous and tasty fruit and cheese display. Carolyn Scheer, Literacy Board President, emceed the event. Cynthia Cowell, Library Director, graciously commended all involved in the literacy program. Newport Beach Mayor, Ed Selich, before reading the proclamation declaring Literacy Day for the city, commended tutors for their commitment and learners for their courage – which was then demonstrated by Jerry Kahn and Afsaneh Taheri Pak as they both spoke movingly about their experiences with the literacy program. Jerry highlighted the variety of books that he and his tutor, Joe Brown, have read together, and explained what a typical tutoring session for them looks like. Afsaneh eloquently shared of her shame, after arriving in the United States just a year ago from Iran, at not being able to speak English well. She shared how it felt to leave her safe zone of home, family, and tradition and commit to a new life. Afsaneh affirmed that being new is always hard and that she has a goal to learn and keep on learning.

Parvin Tabrizi, the 2009 winner of the Rochelle Hoffman Memorial Award presented at the celebration, also received certificates of recognition from both Congressman John Campbell and Senator Tom Harmon.

It was a touching and inspirational morning.



SAVE THE DATE!

Our annual Literacy Holiday Potluck will be held on Saturday morning, December 5th, again at the Newport Coast Community Center—more details to follow.

With Gratitude

While International Literacy Day highlights the amazing work of our learners, tutors, and volunteers, the effects of much-needed donations and grants received throughout the year are felt daily.

A generous grant from the Pacific Life Foundation has touched many lives in the past year. Cherall Weiss, Literacy Coordinator, was able for the first time to attend a ProLiteracy Conference last fall. She returned full of ideas to implement. She revamped the Tutor Training curriculum and began using it in February. Additionally, new tutors are now matched with a mentor who can help with goals, materials, lesson plans, and suggestions.

The Reading Plus computer program is both popular and effective, working to increase reading speed, comprehension, and vocabulary. The yearly license renewal for the program was made possible with the Pacific Life Foundation grant.

With the remaining grant money, new books, workbooks, and books on CD were purchased for the literacy collection.

Thank you, Pacific Life Foundation, for your generosity and for making a difference every day.

**Donations are always welcome**

We are grateful for the community support that we receive from local companies, foundations, and organizations. We thank the Millstream Foundation along with individuals whose donations have been helping the program continue to serve the literacy needs of our community.

If you have any contacts who might be interested in supporting Literacy Services, please contact the office.

Newport Beach Public Library Literacy Services

1000 Avocado Ave.

Newport Beach, CA 92660

949.717.3874

We are an IRS designated 501(c)(3) #93-1011706

The man who doesn't read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.

~ Mark Twain ~

President's Message:

English has been enriched by incorporating words from other languages. Linguists call these "loan words." England, an island country at the edge of Europe, had contact via trade or conquest with many other cultures, leading to the adaptation of many loan words. Current estimates are that the roots of modern English break down as follows: Germanic (including Anglo Saxon, Norse, and Dutch): 35%, French: 30%, Latin: 30%, and Greek: 2%.

The names of the months are a familiar example of Latin loan words. January is named after Janus, the two-faced god of beginnings and endings. February was when the Romans held their feasts of purification, called februa. March's bluster winds led to its being named for the god of war, Mars. April's name derived from the Latin aperire, to blossom. The fertility goddess Maia lent her name to May, and June was named for Juno, wife of Jupiter, king of the gods.

Julius Caesar introduced a new calendar, naming "July" after himself; and his successor, Caesar Augustus, named "August" after himself. These new months were added to the middle of the year. The names of the following months derive from Latin numbers, September (7), October (8), November (9), and December (10), names that predate the Julian calendar.

Many medical, technical, and legal terms have Latin roots. Since French is a romance language, this means that 60% of English words have Latin roots, an impressive accomplishment for a language not spoken for many centuries.

Carolyn

Roles and Goals

Tutors: Thank you for your faithful response to the request for the half-yearly Roles & Goals forms. Please remember that you should always have a current form that you update as appropriate when your learner meets goals and/or sets new ones. It's a great tool to keep goals literacy-focused. Blank forms can be found in the office or on our website.

If you need help filling out the form, or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Tutors: Thank you for turning in your monthly report by the 3rd of each month!

Calling All Writers!

Here is an opportunity for you to read your work aloud to an audience.

On the second Sunday each month, Laguna Beach Books, 1200 S. Coast Highway, Suite 105, Laguna Beach, www.lagunabeachbooks.com holds an Open Mic night where writers of fiction and non-fiction have a 3-minute opportunity to read their original work. For more information, see their blog (www.secondsundayopenmic.blogspot.com) or call 949.494.4779.



Farewell and Welcome

With thankfulness for the many valuable contributions of Advisory Board Members Kristi Dougherty, Leah Hamilton, and Tara Netherton, we sadly bid them farewell as jobs took them and their families out of the area.

We gratefully welcome and look forward to working with new board members who stepped in to fill their shoes: Cindy Keyes, David Pyrzenski, and Holly Wilson.

LITERALLY SPEAKING

Literally Speaking, the newsletter of Literacy Services at the Newport Beach Public Library, is published quarterly and sponsored by corporate and private donations.

Literacy Advisory Board

Carolyn Scheer, *President*
 Nancy Thompson, *Vice President*
 Sandy Beckman, *Secretary*
 Terry Buckley, *Treasurer*
 Pim Jelinek, *Student Liaison*
 Nancy Englebrecht
 Carol Hazelwood
 Cindy Keyes
 Gail McIntosh
 David Pyrzenski
 Sandra Starr
 Amy Tan
 Marj Tussing
 Holly Wilson

LEARNER'S CORNER

My Secret Garden
 As written by Jane Cho

I have known a very beautiful place. It is inside a park near my house.

I happened to find the spot one day while I was taking a walk.

There was a path blocked. But out of curiosity, I continued to walk forward.

Soon I was stopped by a big ditch. To my surprise, next to the deserted ditch, there was a pretty big patch, full of nasturtiums. It was so lovely and spectacular that I could not breathe for a while. Since then I named it my secret garden and would visit at the end of every walk.

When I leave the patch, I ask myself which is right. Is it good to take home one stem or two to enjoy their loveliness or to obey the law not to pick the flowers? Even after I get home, the scene of a huge group of nasturtiums remains vivid in my mind like a picture. They are hidden from pedestrians. Nobody notice their beauty. It is not fair. Flowers have right to be loved.

A few days ago I went to my classic spot. The ditch was reconstructed. On the quiet path, right next to the flower patch, there left tire marks everywhere. Alas! My secret garden was totally devastated. Only a few stems of flowers were remained like soldiers who had survived from a huge bombardment.

I still do not know what happened to them. Now I am looking at the nasturtiums I saved that day. When the last bud blooms and withers, I will wash the vase. Nobody will remember that once there was a secret garden.

Learners:

The selection above is one of the writings that was printed in "In Our Own Words, Volume 2" and distributed at our International Literacy Day celebration. Our goal is to see each learner represented in our annual volume. (*We apologize to Fumiko Ito for accidentally shortening her writing in the booklet.*)

Will you please share with us your stories, poems, recipes (along with a short note about why the recipe is special to you), or other writings that we may include in an upcoming volume or a future issue of "Literally Speaking", with your permission, of course.

Newport Beach Public Library
Literacy Services
1000 Avocado Avenue
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Upcoming Literacy Dates/Events

September 1, 8, 15, 22, September 2, 9, 16, 23 September 3, 17, 24 September 3, 17, 24 September 7 September 10 September 14, 21 September 15 September 23	Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m. Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Monday Thursday 10:00 a.m. Mondays, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.	Adult Learner Discussion Group Adult Learner Pronunciation Group Adult Learner Life Skills Dialogs Adult Learner Conversation Group Library Closed International Literacy Day Adult Learner Book Club Advisory Board Meeting Tutor Connection
October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 October 6, 13, 27 October 12, 19, 26 October 13 October 13, 20, 27 October 14, 21, 28 October 20	Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, 10:15a.m. Mondays, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, 10:00a.m. Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays, 10:30 p.m. Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.	Adult Learner Life Skills Dialogs Adult Learner Conversation Group Adult Learner Discussion Group Adult Learner Book Club New Learner Orientation Advanced Writing Adult Learner Pronunciation Group New Tutor Orientation
November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 November 3, 10, 17, 24 November 3, 10, 17 November 4, 18, 25 November 5, 12, 19 November 5, 12, 19 November 9, 17 November 10 November 11 November 26, 27	Mondays, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m. Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. Thursdays, 10:30a.m. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Thursday, Friday	Adult Learner Book Club Adult Learner Discussion Group Advanced Writing Adult Learner Pronunciation Group Adult Learner Life Skills Dialogs Adult Learner Conversation Group Tutor Training Advisory Board Meeting Library Closed Library Closed

Note: All programs are held at the Central Library unless otherwise posted. For more details, contact the literacy office at (949) 717-3874 or email us at literacy@city.newport-beach.ca.us